

Boxboard Europe

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Top stories

European cartonboard market braces for new round of price increases in final quarter of 2026

By Daniela Wortmann - Thursday 24 September

The European cartonboard market saw significant price changes in the first nine months of 2026. Prices for both folding boxboard (FBB) and white-lined chipboard (WLC) fell in January and rose from April, with further increases now expected in the fourth quarter.

Following decreases of around €40-50 (\$46-57) per tonne in continental Europe and some £30-35 (\$40-47) per tonne in the UK for folding boxboard (FBB) in January, prices remained at the new levels until the end of the first quarter, and the same was true for white-lined chipboard (WLC), where prices slipped by up to €30 per tonne and £30 per tonne in continental Europe and the UK, respectively, at the start of the year.

Both FBB and WLC prices remained largely steady at their January levels the following months, but in the wake of the Middle East conflict between the US/Israel and Iran, domestic suppliers informed customers of their plans to raise prices in the second quarter, and market participants indeed reported higher levels in the following weeks and months.

From June on, the market faced its usual quiet period, but developments in the Middle East conflict and their effects on production costs resulted in a new round of price increase announcements for the final quarter of the year. Several WLC manufacturers informed customers about their plans to raise prices by €75-80 per tonne from October. On the FBB side, two leading manufacturers in Europe reportedly announced increases of €85 and €100 per tonne from November.

Prices mostly steady in June: FBB prices, which started to increase in April and stabilized at the previous month's levels in May, did not see major changes in June. The only exception were cases in which buyers kept rejecting the announced price increases or surcharges throughout April and May, but in the end had to pay around €30-40 per tonne more from June 1.

Apart from that, overcapacity, cost levels, imports by non-European suppliers and what Europe could or should do against those remained the dominant topics in June.

This changed abruptly in the final full week of the month when the FOLBB subsidiaries Baiersbronn Frischfaser Karton in Germany and Folding Boxboard Eerbeek in the Netherlands filed for insolvency.

According to the provisional insolvency administrator in Germany, the FOLBB subsidiaries had been under considerable economic pressure due to persistently high energy costs, structural overcapacity and a challenging market environment, and despite operational cost-cutting measures, the liquidity situation could not be sustainably stabilized. "Our initial focus is on stabilizing business operations and ensuring delivery capacity. [...] The goal is to implement an investor solution as quickly as possible through a structured process," they said.

In the Netherlands, the law firm Stellicher Advocaten informed FOLBB customers that the suspension of payments that had been granted to Folding Boxboard Eerbeek had been withdrawn and the company was declared bankrupt. "The trustee in bankruptcy is currently exploring the possibilities for selling the company and is therefore willing to deliver goods, but the continuity of operations cannot be guaranteed at this moment," it said.

On the WLC side, prices stabilized at higher levels in June. Following average increases of around €10-35 per tonne in April and after suppliers who had spread the announced mark-ups over April and May or only announced increases from May managed to raise prices by a total of €30-35 per tonne, buyers who had previously refused to accept the announced rises confirmed in June that they had to pay around €30 per tonne more from the beginning of the month.

Several WLC suppliers told Fastmarkets that lead times had somewhat improved and that they would have needed higher increases in the second quarter to cover rising costs. However, the undiminished overcapacity in Europe and subdued consumer spending did not provide for any new price increase announcements for the third quarter.

No price changes in July: In July, FBB and WLC prices remained unchanged, with both sellers and buyers confirming the previous month's levels. While several manufacturers said they would have needed higher increases to cover continuously rising costs, they generally agreed that the current geopolitical uncertainties, the undiminished overcapacity in Europe and low consumer confidence did not provide for more price increases.

Apart from prices, the insolvencies of the FOLBB subsidiaries Baiersbronn Frischfaser Karton and Folding Boxboard Eerbeek remained one of the most important topics on the FBB side. Several industry insiders told Fastmarkets they did not believe that the insolvency administrators' efforts would bear fruit. "The Baiersbronn and Eerbeek mills are non-integrated and the machines are old. Who would buy them?" one of them said.

However, at the end of the month it was announced that the 150,000 tonne per year Eerbeek mill had been acquired by entrepreneurs Richard Getkate and Siegfried Hohmann and was set to restart operations. Going forward, the site was supposed to focus on further developing its product portfolio and strengthening its position in high-performance cartonboard grades, with particular attention to barrier cartonboard solutions.

On the WLC side, prices also remained unchanged from the previous month in July. Following average increases of around €30-35 per tonne over the second quarter, market participants told Fastmarkets they did not expect more price changes for now or even until the end of the year.

"With the current overcapacity, low consumer confidence and high availability of material from non-European suppliers, higher prices would go hand in hand with a market share reduction, and everybody knows that nobody can afford that," one of them said.

Some buyers said they asked their suppliers to take back any surcharges that were applied in the wake of the Middle East conflict when peace talks between the US and Iran began. However, they admitted that success had been very limited or non-existent.

Steady prices in August: In August, market participants reported the usual summer lull but usually confirmed the previous month's prices.

On the FBB side, Fastmarkets was told that a few manufacturers managed to take advantage of the FOLBB insolvency, while for the rest it was a normal mid-summer month.

In this respect, it was announced towards the end of the month that the previously announced plans for the sale of the Dutch FOLBB subsidiary Folding Boxboard Eerbeek and the proposed restart of production under new ownership fell through. "We regret to announce that the planned restart of the Eerbeek mill has been cancelled," FOLBB said in a statement on social media on August 20. "As a result, all activities at the Eerbeek site have been suspended with immediate effect," it added.

In Germany, the investor process for the FOLBB subsidiary Baiersbronn Frischfaser Karton ended without success as well.



On August 25, the law firm Brinkmann & Partner (B&P) said that the potential investor had not yet been able to secure the financing necessary for the transaction.

"Independent continuation of operations after the commencement of proceedings is not possible due to the reinstatement of full costs and limited options for price increases. This limits the remaining timeframe for successfully concluding the investor process. Should the current transaction process not be successfully completed in time, business operations will have to cease upon the commencement of insolvency proceedings," B&P said.

A few days later, the law firm said that the potential investor had announced that they would not pursue the planned transaction. At the beginning of the following week, local media reported that the Baiersbronn mill would cease production by September 7.

WLC prices also remained unchanged from the previous month in August. Market participants usually reported slow order intake and undiminished cost pressure, and several said it was a question of when rather than if they were planning to announce price increases.

"The current [price] levels are unsustainable, but WLC producers will be reluctant to announce increases as long as the FBB side remains quiet. The risk that WLC buyers decide to switch to virgin-fiber grades is high," one manufacturer said.

In mid-August, MM Board & Paper and Italy's RDM Group announced that MM would take over the RDM Arnsberg mill in Germany. The site has the capacity to produce around 230,000 tonnes per year of recycled cartonboard and specializes in liner products.

According to MM, the transaction represents an investment in its core business and complements its existing production network.

"By integrating the Arnsberg mill into its established industrial platform in Germany, comprising several cartonboard mills and packaging plants, MM expects to realize significant synergies that should facilitate the turnaround of the mill. In addition, the acquisition is expected to increase production flexibility, improve security of supply, and further broaden the product and service offering for customers," the company said in a statement.

Michele Bianchi, chief executive officer of RDM Group, called the planned transaction an important step in the execution of the company's strategy.

"The sale of the Arnsberg business supports our objective of optimizing the group's business plan and focusing our efforts on those product categories and markets where we see the strongest prospects for sustainable growth, innovation and value creation. We are confident that MM Board & Paper is the right industrial player to support the future development of the Arnsberg business and its employees," he said.

The acquisition remains subject to antitrust approval and is expected to close in the fourth quarter.

Price increase announcements in September: After the end of the main summer vacation period, market participants had initially hoped that demand would revive, but the situation remained difficult. "Business is not exactly sparkling," a manufacturer told Fastmarkets, and several of his industry peers on both the selling and buying sides shared similar views.

According to market participants, energy costs continued to weigh on the market, and rising costs for transport, raw materials and chemicals were another factor that complicated the situation.

Against this background, several FBB and WLC producers announced plans to raise prices in the fourth quarter.

On the WLC side, Germany's WEIG was the first manufacturer to publicly announce plans to raise prices from October 1. The company attributed the move to continuing cost increases for energy, paper for recycling, chemicals and logistics.

"The decision is based on a careful assessment of current cost trends and is necessary to ensure the continued efficiency of production and the consistently high delivery and product quality," WEIG said.

The company did not give a specific amount for the planned price increase. "The specific impact will be communicated individually to affected customers within the framework of their respective contractual agreements," it said.

A few days later, MM Board & Paper announced a price increase of €75 per tonne across its cartonboard portfolio effective from October.

According to the company, the decision came in response to sustained cost inflation and continued margin pressure. "In particular, energy, logistics and chemical costs remain well above historical levels and have continued to show significant volatility since the escalation of hostilities in Iran in March 2026," it said in a statement.

It added that cumulative cost inflation continued to outpace achieved price recovery and that the resulting gap had reached an unsustainable level. "Despite ongoing efficiency measures and cost-mitigation efforts, MM Board & Paper can no longer absorb the continued increase in operating costs internally," the company said.

The adjustment will apply across MM Board & Paper's cartonboard portfolio of WLC, liner and FBB grades. "MM Board & Paper considers this price increase a necessary step to strengthen the economic foundation of its business and support the future competitiveness of European cartonboard production," it said.

Italy's RDM Group also publicly announced a price increase. The company said on Friday September 11 that it would lift prices by €80 per tonne across its entire WLC portfolio from October. It attributed the planned increase to the continued inflationary environment and the sustained increase in manufacturing costs experienced across numerous cost categories throughout the paper and board industry and said that, despite ongoing efforts to mitigate these pressures through operational efficiency and cost management measures, the current level of cost inflation could no longer be fully absorbed without affecting market pricing.

"Over an extended period, the industry has faced increasing cost pressures across a number of manufacturing inputs," said Pierre-Yves Corbière, chief commercial officer at RDM Group. "While RDM Group has worked diligently to offset these impacts wherever possible, the magnitude and duration of the increases make a price adjustment necessary to ensure the sustainable supply of high-quality cartonboard solutions to our customers," he added.

According to market insiders, several other FBB and WLC producers also informed customers about their intention to raise prices in the fourth quarter, among them two leading FBB manufacturer who reportedly announced increases of €100 per tonne from November 1 and €85 per tonne from November 9.

According to market insiders, manufacturers were ready for a take-it-or-leave-it approach, and they confirmed this sentiment. "We will apply the increase on all deliveries from October 1. We might agree on a two-step increase, but we'd rather stop production than deliver any material at unchanged prices," one of them said.

Several market insiders on the buying side acknowledged manufacturers' need to raise prices, but doubted that the planned increases would go through easily and in one go.

"One manufacturer told me there won't be negotiations. They will apply the increase no matter what, and if customers are not willing to pay higher prices, there won't be any deliveries. Let's see if that will really happen," one of them told Fastmarkets.

"Cost increases are not only affecting manufacturers. Converters have been hit hard by cost increases as well, be it for energy, chemicals, transport or ink," another contact on the buying side of the market said. "The planned increases would leave us caught between a rock and a hard place. Brand owners are trying to cut costs in times of low consumer confidence, but if we don't manage to pass on at least part of the announced price increases, I don't know how many of us can survive," they added.

In the third quarter of 2026 alone, at least two converters had to cease operating or file for insolvency.

At the end of July, folding carton production and packaging printing came to an end in Sneek, northern Netherlands, when insolvent carton printer Royal De Vries ceased operations and went out of business.

"After 152 years, the folding carton plant of Royal De Vries in Sneek has ceased production. No buyer was found for the business as a whole," the company said on Monday August 24. "The German plant remarketing specialist Allaoui has acquired all assets and is offering them for sale, including a KBA offset press as well as Bobst and MK Masterwork converting equipment," it added.

According to majority shareholder FB Oranjewoud Participaties, which took control of Royal De Vries in 2018, a reorganization in 2025 led to quality and delivery problems, causing customers to move elsewhere. The problems were resolved, but sales did not recover, and Royal De Vries filed for insolvency on June 15.

Administrator Christian Geffroy of law firm Dommerholt Advocaten kept the plant running until July 31 to fulfill open orders and preserve the business for a potential buyer, but no agreement was reached in time.

In Germany, Karl Kurz and Pappenfabrik Trauchgau, the production companies of Tullau Pappen, a long-established manufacturer of solid board and grayboard products, filed for insolvency in early September.

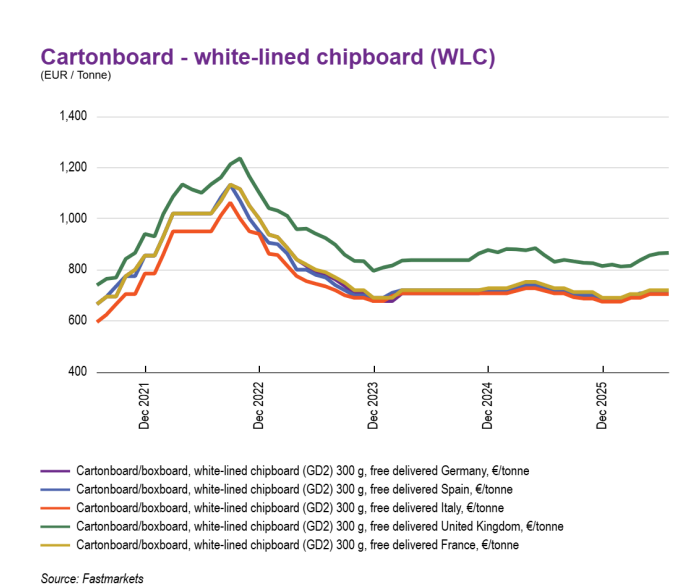
On Friday September 3, 2026, the Heilbronn District Court opened preliminary insolvency proceedings for both companies and appointed Tibor Braun of the law firm IBK Illig Braun Kirschnek Rechtsanwälte as preliminary insolvency administrator in both cases.

"Operations in Rosengarten-Tullau and Halblech will continue in full," Braun said in a statement on September 10. "For both sites, agreements in principle have already been reached with key suppliers, energy providers, shipping companies and funders to ensure an orderly continuation of operations."

According to Braun, the aim is to find investors through a mergers and acquisitions (M&A) process, which has already been launched. Braun added that the insolvency proceedings were prompted in particular by sharp increases in energy, raw material and labor costs in recent years, combined with an increasingly difficult market environment.

"The paper and board industry has been facing considerable competitive and price pressure for years. With overall market production volumes broadly stable, achievable prices have remained under continuous pressure," the IBK statement said. The statement added that, at the same time, the substantial cost increases could only be passed on to customers to a limited extent, as price increases immediately resulted in volume and sales reductions.

"These developments weighed on the profitability of both companies and ultimately led to insufficient capacity utilization," IBK said.



Italian P&B production falls 2.8% year on year in January-June 2026

By Andrea Venturini - Monday 21 September

Italian production of paper and board (P&B) fell by 2.8% year on year to 3.99 million tonnes in January-June 2026, according to the latest figures from Assocarta, the Italian association of pulp, paper and board producers.

Newsprint apparent consumption fell by 9.9% year on year to 141,000 tonnes during the first six months of the year.

Production of coated mechanical paper increased by 6.0% year on year to 102,000 tonnes, while apparent consumption fell by 17.0% to 69,000 tonnes. Imports of coated mechanical paper declined by 3.6% to 111,000 tonnes, while exports rose by 12.4% to 144,000 tonnes.

Production of coated woodfree paper declined by 0.8% year on year to 345,000 tonnes. Imports fell by 13.8% to 121,000 tonnes, while exports increased by 1.3% to 182,000 tonnes. Apparent consumption decreased by 7.9% to 284,000 tonnes.

Tissue paper production was broadly stable, edging down by 0.5% year on year to 820,000 tonnes. Imports increased by 15.5% to 21,000 tonnes, while exports fell by 9.8% to 185,000 tonnes. Apparent consumption increased by 3.0% to 655,000 tonnes.

On the packaging side, containerboard production fell by 8.6% year on year to 1.29 million tonnes. Imports increased by 0.2% to 1.08 million tonnes, while exports rose by 5.6% to 859,000 tonnes. Apparent consumption declined by 6.7% to 2.21 million tonnes.

Production of other packaging grades, including cartonboard, fell by 2.3% year on year to 1.07 million tonnes. Imports declined by 3.9% to 832,000 tonnes and exports increased by 0.9% to 691,000 tonnes. Apparent consumption decreased by 5.1% to 1.21 million tonnes. Cartonboard imports fell by 6.9% to 486,000 tonnes, exports declined by 10.1% to 221,000 tonnes and apparent consumption dropped by 4.1% to 266,000 tonnes.

Pulp apparent consumption increased by 0.9% year on year to 1.47 million tonnes. Pulp imports declined by 0.5% to 1.51 million tonnes.

Paper for recycling (PfR) consumption at paper mills fell by 5.1% year on year to 2.61 million tonnes. Apparent collection declined by 1.6% to 3.38 million tonnes, while imports rose by 2.8% to 176,000 tonnes and exports increased by 10.4% to 948,000 tonnes.

Italian pulp and paper production, imports, exports and apparent consumption Jan-Jun 2026 (1,000 tonnes)								
	Production		Imports		Exports		Apparent consumption	
	Jan-Jun 2026	Y-o-Y % change	Jan-Jun 2026	Y-o-Y % change	Jan-Jun 2026	Y-o-Y % change	Jan-Jun 2026	Y-o-Y % change
Total paper and board	3,988	-2.8	2,648	-3.4	1,564	4.7	5,072	-5.1
Newsprint	0	n.m.	141	-10.2	n.m.	n.m.	141	-9.9
Uncoated mechanical	n.a.	n.a.	80	-7.8	8	-38.6	n.a.	n.a.
Coated mechanical	102	6.0	111	-3.6	144	12.4	69	-17.0
Uncoated woodfree	n.a.	n.a.	232	-6.0	156	28.5	n.a.	n.a.

Italian pulp and paper production, imports, exports and apparent consumption Jan-Jun 2026 (1,000 tonnes)									
	Production		Imports		Exports		Apparent consumption*		
Coated woodfree	345	-0.8	121	-13.8	182	1.3	284	-7.2	
Tissue paper	820	-0.5	21	15.5	185	-9.8	655	3.0	
Containerboard	1,290	-8.6	1,084	0.2	859	5.6	2,206	-6.7	
Corrugated medium	714	-11.6	360	-1.6	97	50.7	977	-12.5	
Liner	576	-4.6	724	1.2	71	10.5	1,229	-2.5	
Other packaging grades	1,068**	-2.3	832	-3.9	691	0.9	1,209	-5.1	
Of which cartonboard***	n.a.	n.a.	486	-6.9	221	-10.1	266	-4.1	
Other paper & board	179	-0.7	25.0	-14.4	29	-7.6	175	-1.7	
Pulp***	n.a.*	n.a.*	1,513	-0.5	48	-30.7	1,465	0.9	
	Paper mill consumption		Imports		Exports		Apparent collection		
	Jan-Jun 2026	Y-o-Y % change	Jan-Jun 2026	Y-o-Y % change	Jan-Jun 2026	Y-o-Y % change	Jan-Jun 2026	Y-o-Y % change	
Paper for recycling	2,609	-5.1	176	2.8	948	10.4	3,381	-1.8	
*National production + imports - exports. **The figure includes cartonboard production. ***Istat, the Italian national statistical agency, does not provide this production figure because of privacy laws. Apparent consumption is therefore calculated as the difference between imports and exports (net imports). Source: Assocarta									

La Rochette Cartonboard and CGT Savoie did not respond to Fastmarkets' request for comment by the time of publication

Founded in 1873, La Rochette Cartonboard operates a mill in Valgelon-La Rochette with capacity to produce around 150,000 tonnes per year of FBB on two machines, according to Fastmarkets' Asset Database.

German private equity investor Mutaes acquired La Rochette Cartonboard from Italy's RDM Group in 2021.

German packaging specialist Tullau Pappen files for insolvency; operations at Rosengarten-Tullau, Halblech sites continue

By Daniela Wortmann - Monday 21 September

Tullau Pappen, a long-established German manufacturer of solid board and grayboard products, is in financial difficulties. The company's two production companies, Karl Kurz and Pappenfabrik Trauchgau, filed for insolvency in early September.

On Friday September 3, 2026, the Heilbronn District Court opened preliminary insolvency proceedings for both companies and appointed Tibor Braun of the law firm IBK Illig Braun Kirschnek Rechtsanwälte as preliminary insolvency administrator in both cases.

"Operations in Rosengarten-Tullau and Halblech will continue in full," Braun said in a statement on September 10. "For both sites, agreements in principle have already been reached with key suppliers, energy providers, shipping companies and funders to ensure an orderly continuation of operations."

Karl Kurz and Pappenfabrik Trauchgau each employ around 45 people. Salaries and wages are secured through October under Germany's insolvency benefit scheme, which is funded by the Federal Employment Agency.

According to Braun, the aim is to find investors through a mergers and acquisitions (M&A) process, which has already been launched.

Braun added that the insolvency proceedings were prompted in particular by sharp increases in energy, raw material and labor costs in recent years, combined with an increasingly difficult market environment.

The paper and board industry has been facing considerable competitive and price pressure for years. With overall market production volumes broadly stable, achievable prices have remained under continuous pressure," the IBK statement said.

The statement added that, at the same time, the substantial cost increases could only be passed on to customers to a limited extent, as price increases immediately resulted in volume and sales reductions.

"These developments weighed on the profitability of both companies and ultimately led to insufficient capacity utilization," IBK said.

La Rochette Cartonboard's FBB mill in France hit by strike action

By Daniela Wortmann - Thursday 24 September

French folding boxboard (FBB) producer La Rochette Cartonboard has been hit by industrial action at its mill in southeastern France.

Around 150 employees gathered outside the mill on Saturday September 19 to "defend their factory, their jobs and their expertise," according to local media reports and social media statements from trade union Confédération Générale du Travail (CGT) Savoie.

Employees had been called to take part in a day of strike action and blockades amid concerns about the company's financial position, local media reported on September 18. Trade unions cited financial difficulties and supplier debt as key concerns.

Spanish paper industry association Aspapel appoints Elisabet Alier as new president

By Daniela Wortmann - Friday 25 September

The board of directors of the Spanish association of pulp, paper and board producers (Aspapel) has appointed Elisabet Alier, chief sustainable growth officer at Alier, as president for a two-year term. Alier already held the position from 2020 to 2022 and succeeds Jordi Aguiló, managing director of Ence’s pulp business.

Miguel Ángel Tapiador, chief executive officer of Iberpapel, was appointed vice president, replacing Miguel Ángel Jiménez, managing director of Saica Paper.

“The appointments renew Aspapel’s leadership as it seeks to strengthen the competitiveness of Spain’s paper industry, accelerate decarbonization and highlight the sector’s contribution to the economy and employment,” Aspapel said in a statement on Thursday September 24. “The transition comes amid high structural and energy costs and intensifying competition from countries with more favorable cost structures,” the association added.

Spain’s paper industry comprises 72 mills and ranks 5th in Europe in both paper and board (P&B) and pulp production. The sector generated sales of €5.1 (\$5.8) billion in 2025. According to Aspapel, exports accounted for 41% of domestic P&B and 56.9% of pulp production. The industry employs 17,581 people directly and supports a further 88,000 indirect jobs.

Spanish P&B production drops 3.3% y-o-y in Jan-July: Aspapel

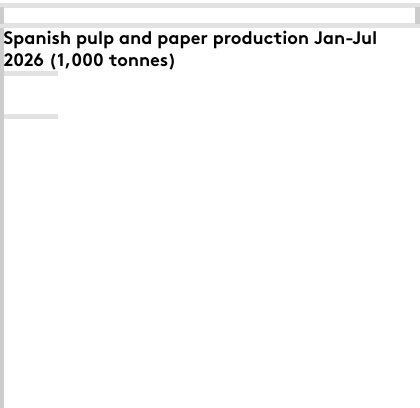
By Daniela Wortmann - Tuesday 22 September

Paper and board (P&B) production in Spain dropped in the period from January to July. According to the latest figures from the industry association Aspapel, total P&B production amounted to around 3.7 million tonnes in the first seven months of 2026, which was 3.3% lower than in the same period a year earlier.

Graphic paper production saw the steepest decline, falling by 15.7% year on year to around 335,800 tonnes. Containerboard production, on the other hand, was broadly stable at around 2.1 million tonnes in the period under review.

Tissue production fell by 7.1% year on year to around 495,600 tonnes in Jan-July. Output of cartonboard and other packaging P&B grades and specialty paper was down by 0.3% and 2.1% year on year at around 454,600 tonnes and 242,800 tonnes, respectively.

At 935,100 tonnes, pulp production in Spain was down by 2.5% year on year.



Production		
Jan-Jul 2026		
% change		
Graphic paper	335.8	-15.7
Tissue	495.6	-7.1
Containerboard	2,133.4	-0.8
Cartonboard and other packaging P&B	454.6	-0.3
Other and specialty paper	242.8	-2.1
Total P&B		
	3,662.2	-3.3
Pulp	935.1	-2.5

Source: Aspapel

Antalis acquires UK’s Ovenden Papers assets after administration

By Sharon Levrez - Tuesday 22 September

France-based paper and packaging company Antalis has acquired the assets and trade of UK paper merchant Ovenden Papers from its administrators, strengthening its position in the UK paper distribution market, according to a company announcement on Monday September 21.

The transaction was completed on September 18 and includes Ovenden Papers’ customer relationships, employees, premises and relevant operational assets. Antalis said the business would continue to operate under the Ovenden family name while being supported by Antalis UK & Ireland. Its immediate focus will be maintaining continuity of supply and service while conducting a review of the acquired business and its future development.

“While it is disappointing to see a long-established business such as Ovenden Papers enter administration, we are pleased to have been able to acquire its assets and trade and provide a route forward,” Antalis UK & Ireland regional managing director Nick Thompson said. He added that the company saw opportunities to combine Ovenden’s customer relationships and market knowledge with Antalis’ broader product portfolio, distribution network and technical resources.

Based in the UK, Ovenden Papers has long supplied paper, packaging and label materials to printers and converters. The company entered administration earlier this month before the sale of the business and assets to Antalis.

The acquisition continues a broader expansion strategy by Antalis, which operates across Europe, North America and Latin America. In recent years, the company has used acquisitions to strengthen its positions in paper, packaging and visual communications. In April 2025, Antalis acquired UK packaging specialist The Packaging Company and Central European Fortuna Digital Group, citing plans to expand its packaging offering and market reach.

Antalis has also been active in adjacent graphic and label-related markets. In late 2024, it acquired the business activities of French visual communications specialist Poitoo Adhésifs, a distributor of large-format printing media, adhesives and related consumables, while in June 2025 it further expanded its visual communications activities in France through the acquisition of Club Groupe.

The deal comes amid ongoing consolidation across Europe’s paper, packaging and label supply chain, where distributors and converters have sought greater

scale following several years of market volatility, cost inflation and shifting demand patterns.

Related News Boxboard/Cartonboard Europe

Butterfly Acquires Sabert, a Leading Global Provider of Innovative and Sustainable Food Packaging Solutions

By Press release - Friday 25 September

Private equity firm Butterfly to acquire global packaging manufacturer Sabert, transaction slated to close by Q4 2026.

LOS ANGELES--Butterfly Equity ("Butterfly"), a Los Angeles-based private equity firm specializing in the food and beverage sector, today announced it has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Sabert Holding Corp. ("Sabert" or the "Company"), a leading global manufacturer of innovative and sustainable food packaging solutions. The financial terms of the transaction were not disclosed. The transaction is subject to customary closing conditions and is expected to close in Q4 2026.

Founded in 1983 and headquartered in Sayreville, New Jersey, Sabert is a scaled food packaging platform with capabilities across plastic, paper and molded fiber. The Company operates 13 manufacturing facilities globally, including nine in the U.S., and serves leading customers across the food & beverage landscape, including foodservice distribution, supermarkets & grocery, restaurants & QSRs, and fresh protein and food processors. Sabert has built longstanding customer relationships through its focus on innovation, design and service. The business is supported by over 400 product patents and dedicated research, tooling and innovation capabilities.

"For more than four decades, Sabert has been focused on developing unique solutions that help our customers respond to the changing ways consumers eat and live," said Albert Salama, Founder and Executive Chairman of Sabert. "Butterfly's deep expertise and understanding of our customers and end markets make them an ideal partner for our next chapter. We look forward to working together to continue investing in innovation and delivering exceptional products and services to our customers."

The acquisition further advances Butterfly's strategy of investing in the businesses that power the evolving food and beverage segment, including packaging. Butterfly has emerged as a differentiated partner for well-positioned packaging companies, drawing upon its insights and connectivity throughout the entire food and beverage value chain to accelerate growth and profitability. Albert Salama will remain a meaningful minority investor following the closing of the transaction, underscoring continued confidence in the Company's strategic direction and long-term value creation potential. The rollover investment further aligns the interests of the founder, management team, and investors as the Company executes its growth initiatives.

"Sabert is exactly the type of business we look for at Butterfly: a category-leading player with deep roots across the food ecosystem, differentiated capabilities and tremendous opportunities for continued growth," said Adam Waglay, CEO, Co-Founder & Managing Partner at Butterfly. "As consumers increasingly prioritize convenience and flexibility in how and where they eat, packaging plays an essential role in enabling the food industry to meet those needs. We are thrilled to partner with Albert, Sabert CEO, Paul McCann, and the entire Sabert team to build on the incredible business they have created."

Butterfly was advised by Kirkland & Ellis LLP on legal matters and by KPMG LLP on financial and tax matters. UBS Investment Bank and Goldman Sachs acted as financial advisors to Sabert, and Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP and FBT Gibbons LLP acted as legal counsel to Sabert. Committed financing for the transaction is being provided by UBS Investment Bank, Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC and KKR Capital Markets.

Solidus plans €75/t price increase across all products from October 1

By Sharon Levrez - Thursday 24 September

The Netherlands-based Solidus intends to raise prices for all grades of solid board by €75 (\$85) per tonne from October 1, 2026, the company said on Thursday September 24.

"The price increase applies to all Solidus products and will be effective for all new orders from October 1 onwards, across all our geographies," a company spokesperson told Fastmarkets.

Solidus said the increase was necessary due to continuing increases in costs and subsequent pressure on margins.

"Geopolitical tensions around the world are severely impacting our energy and transport costs, and the prices of other resources, such as raw materials and chemicals, are also rising," the company said.

Solidus produces standard and customizable packaging, solid board, tubes, cores, edge protectors and partitions.

Several other European board producers have announced price increases for the fourth quarter over the past few weeks.

On September 4, Germany's WEIG was the first to publicly announce plans to raise prices from October 1. The company attributed the move to continuing cost increases for energy, paper for recycling, chemicals and logistics.

A few days later, MM Board & Paper announced a price increase of €75 per tonne across its cartonboard portfolio effective from October 1. Then on September 11, Italy's RDM said it intended to raise prices by €80 per tonne across its entire white-lined chipboard portfolio from October 1.

Boxboard/Cartonboard Europe Key Attributes

Symbol	Description	Date	Price	+/-	Month	Monthly Average
FP-CBB-0098	Cartonboard/boxboard, folding boxboard (GC2) 270-280 g, free delivered France, €/tonne	01 Sep 2026	980 - 1220	0 (0.00%)	Sep 2026	980 - 1220

Symbol	Description	Date	Price	+/-	Month	Monthly Average
FP-CBB-0100	Cartonboard/boxboard, folding boxboard (GC2) 270-280 g free delivered Germany €/tonne	01 Sep 2026	980 - 1210	0 (0.00%)	Sep 2026	980 - 1210
FP-CBB-0099	Cartonboard/boxboard, white-lined chipboard (GD2) 300 g, free delivered France, €/tonne	01 Sep 2026	700 - 740	0 (0.00%)	Sep 2026	700 - 740
FP-CBB-0101	Cartonboard/boxboard, white-lined chipboard (GD2) 300 g, free delivered Germany, €/tonne	01 Sep 2026	680 - 735	0 (0.00%)	Sep 2026	680 - 735

Boxboard/Cartonboard Germany Markets

Symbol	Description	Date	Price	+/-	Month	Monthly Average
FP-CBB-0100	Cartonboard/boxboard, folding boxboard (GC2) 270-280 g free delivered Germany €/tonne	01 Sep 2026	980 - 1210	0 (0.00%)	Sep 2026	980 - 1210
FP-CBB-0101	Cartonboard/boxboard, white-lined chipboard (GD2) 300 g, free delivered Germany, €/tonne	01 Sep 2026	680 - 735	0 (0.00%)	Sep 2026	680 - 735

Boxboard/Cartonboard Spain Markets

Symbol	Description	Date	Price	+/-	Month	Monthly Average
FP-CBB-0104	Cartonboard/boxboard, folding boxboard (GC2) 270-280 g, free delivered Spain, €/tonne	01 Aug 2026	970 - 1220	0 (0.00%)	Aug 2026	970 - 1220
FP-CBB-0105	Cartonboard/boxboard, white-lined chipboard (GD2) 300 g, free delivered Spain, €/tonne	01 Aug 2026	695 - 720	0 (0.00%)	Aug 2026	695 - 720

Boxboard/Cartonboard France Markets

Symbol	Description	Date	Price	+/-	Month	Monthly Average
FP-CBB-0098	Cartonboard/boxboard, folding boxboard (GC2) 270-280 g, free delivered France, €/tonne	01 Sep 2026	980 - 1220	0 (0.00%)	Sep 2026	980 - 1220
FP-CBB-0099	Cartonboard/boxboard, white-lined chipboard (GD2) 300 g, free delivered France, €/tonne	01 Sep 2026	700 - 740	0 (0.00%)	Sep 2026	700 - 740

Boxboard/Cartonboard Italy Markets

Symbol	Description	Date	Price	+/-	Month	Monthly Average
FP-CBB-0102	Cartonboard/boxboard, folding boxboard (GC2) 270-280 g, free delivered Italy, €/tonne	01 Sep 2026	980 - 1220	0 (0.00%)	Sep 2026	980 - 1220
FP-CBB-0103	Cartonboard/boxboard, white-lined chipboard (GD2) 300 g, free delivered Italy, €/tonne	01 Sep 2026	680 - 730	0 (0.00%)	Sep 2026	680 - 730

Boxboard/Cartonboard UK Markets

Symbol	Description	Date	Price	+/-	Month	Monthly Average
FP-CBB-0094	Cartonboard/boxboard, folding boxboard (GC2) 270-280 g, free delivered United Kingdom, £/tonne	01 Sep 2026	990 - 1175	0 (0.00%)	Sep 2026	990 - 1175
FP-CBB-0095	Cartonboard/boxboard, folding boxboard (GC2) 270-280 g, free delivered United Kingdom, €/tonne	01 Sep 2026	1154 - 1370	-5 (-0.39%)	Sep 2026	1154 - 1370
FP-CBB-0096	Cartonboard/boxboard, white-lined chipboard (GD2) 300 g, free delivered United Kingdom, £/tonne	01 Sep 2026	715 - 765	0 (0.00%)	Sep 2026	715 - 765

Symbol	Description	Date	Price	+/-	Month	Monthly Average
FP-CBB-0097	Cartonboard/boxboard, white-lined chipboard (GD2) 300 g, free delivered United Kingdom, €/tonne	01 Sep 2026	834 - 892	-3 (-0.35%)	Sep 2026	834 - 892